

Church Announcement: “to be spoken in church”

You have been tremendous as a congregation to give input and attend meetings with The Center Consulting Group regarding our church and Calvary Baptist School. We cannot thank you enough. We also want to thank you for your patience as we all contribute to this process in identifying God’s roadmap for our ministries. Improving our effectiveness in fulfilling our mission takes a bit of time to get all the pieces lined up correctly. Your leadership team is committed to being well-informed so we can lead wisely as we move into the future.

We promised you an update on the school and the good news is...we are making progress! We’ve completed focus groups, church surveys, task force investigation and a school survey. Sixty days ago, we appointed a task force to work with The Center Consulting Group to look carefully at Calvary Baptist School. The task force included 10 members with various experience and school perspectives including financial experts, business leaders, school administration and teachers.

The purpose of this effort was to help us identify the areas that need to be addressed in order for the school to continue its mission with strength. The task force explored and documented several areas in the last 60 days including:

Market Assessment – a comparative study of local Christian schools, their structure, governance, tuition, and fund raising

Financial Analysis – CBS enrollment history, tuition, cost per student, etc.

School Philosophy and governance – how is the vision and mission of both the church and the school connected.

Funding – exploration of other Christian school funding practices - what is needed, length of process, etc.

School Survey – reached parents, alumni, faculty, and prospective parents regarding what attributes are important in Christian education and perceptions of CBS with regard to those attributes. We also asked about entry points and barriers to entry to our school, tuition, governance, recommendations, re-enrollment and what it means when we say, “CBS is a ministry of Calvary Baptist Church.”

With all of this information in hand; and noting that 85% of those surveyed desired some type of change in school governance, the Center has recommended that Calvary Baptist School should begin a trajectory toward organizational independence. However, the depth of research has identified many questions and challenges that still need to be addressed before that can be seriously considered by the Elders, and you the members.

Therefore, the Center recommends a next step and the elders have agreed and begun to assemble a team of individuals, who are experienced in the financial realm and school administration to partner with the school leadership and present distinct recommendations to the church within 90 days. *Specifically, the goal of this financial team will be to present the elders with a “3-year financial projection” based on reasonable assumptions, that can be used to help the church determine how to best further support the growth of the school.*

Next week, we will be talking about the progress on our Church 3-year plan.

Please pray with us for God to work in powerful ways through this process. More than ever before we need UNITY in our prayers for our church and school.